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Subject: The Soviet Intelligence and Counterintelligence Services
in Germany and Austria.

c. Personnel, Selection and Training

MGB Training for work
in Germany -

According to the latest information, all MGB officers in Germany must be graduates of one of the special MGB Schools located in key cities of the U.S.S.R. All MGB interpreters in Germany must be commissioned officers who have completed a foreign language course, probably at the Foreign Language Institute of the Soviet Army in Moscow. Most civilian interpreters who were hired before this requirement went into force have been repatriated to the U.S.S.R., while those who remained have had to qualify for commissioned status by taking correspondence courses offered by the Foreign Language Institute. Clerks who have arrived in Germany recently are graduates of an MGB clerical school in Moscow.

Training of locally employed Austrian agents appears to be essentially similar to the training given by the UGB in Germany. Thus far no advanced intelligence or counterintelligence training has been identified in Austria. However, the existence of several low-level agent schools offering courses of short duration has been established. There is also evidence that several UGB schools are using the MVD establishment as a cover for their activities.

It is believed that in addition to the graduates of Soviet-operated agent schools, the UGB employs a fair number of graduates of agent schools organized by the Austrian Communist Party under Soviet sponsorship.

Most agents and informants employed by the UGB do not receive any formal training. These individuals are, however, briefed by the UGB officer effecting the recruitment as to what type of information is required in general, or in connection with a specific mission to which the agent is assigned.

According to unconfirmed reports the UGB may conduct three agent schools in the Soviet Zone of Germany. These schools are supposedly located in Dresden, Schaman, and Poggendorf.

The course at the Poggendorf School reportedly consists of:

- (1) Organization of the U.S. and British Occupation Armies
- (2) Installations of the U.S. and British Civil Administration in Germany.
- (3) Organization of the U.S. and British Military Police.
- (4) The Communist Party Program.
- (5) Map reading.
- (6) Terrain reconnaissance
- (7) Preparation of reports
- (8) Security
- (9) Interrogation procedure
- (10) Coding and decoding

It is also considered probable that Communist Party schools in the Soviet Zone of Germany provide a considerable amount of agent training. Graduates of these schools may therefore be considered to have a basic knowledge of espionage and counterintelligence techniques.

While elementary training is almost certainly offered, there has been no evidence of any advanced intelligence schools in the Soviet Zone of Germany. It is therefore assumed that higher-level intelligence operators working for the UGB in the Soviet Zone of Germany have been identified.